GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2343
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2017
Availability of Ground Water
Reddy Shri J.C. Divakar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of surface vis-a-vis ground water availability in the Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh including Anantapur;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to boost this availability and make it more viable and accessible to people;

(c) whether the Government proposes to come up with surface/ground water awareness and restoration scheme in the country to make people realise the importance of water, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is thinking about water pricing; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by the Government under Polluter Pays Principle in industrial regions of the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) River basin being the natural hydrological unit, the assessment of water resources availability has been done by Central Water Commission (CWC) in 1993 river basin wise. Some part of Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh falls in Krishna River Basin. As per the assessment by CWC, water availability in Krishna basin is 78.1 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM).

As per the latest assessment of dynamic ground water resources of India (as on 31st March 2013) jointly carried out by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and State Ground Water Departments, the net annual ground water availability for Rayalseema region of Andhra Pradesh including Anantapur District is 5.51 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM). District wise details of dynamic ground water resources assessment of Rayalaseema region are at Annexure-I.

(b) Water being a State Subject, State Governments undertake several measures for augmenting, conserving and utilizing water resources including boosting availability of water to make it more viable and accessible to people. To support the measures taken by the State Governments, Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to the State Governments through various schemes and programmes. This Ministry provides technical and financial assistance to the State Governments through various schemes and programmes

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viz. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme, Scheme for Repair, Renovation & Restoration of Water-bodies etc. Some of such initiatives taken by Central Government are as follows:

â€¢ A National Perspective Plan (NPP) envisaging inter-basin transfer of water has been formulated by this Ministry to improve water security in the country. The implementation of NPP would give added benefits of approximately 35 million hectares of additional irrigation potential, 34000 mega watts (MW) hydro power generation, flood moderation, navigation, drinking and industrial water supply, fisheries, salinity and pollution control etc.
â€¢ Central Government has launched the National Water Mission (NWM) with the objective of conservation of water, minimizing wastage and ensuring its more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management. One of the goals of NWM is to increase water use efficiency by 20%.
â€¢ Improved water use efficiency in different sectors such as in irrigation (through micro-irrigation, e.g., drip, sprinkler etc.), industry and households is being encouraged through various initiatives, programmes/ schemes of the Government.
â€¢ Central Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) with the vision of extending the coverage of irrigation 'Har Khet ko Pani' and improving water use efficiency 'More crop per drop' in a focused manner with end to end solution on source creation, distribution, management, field application and extension activities.
â€¢ Water conservation and water harvesting structures to augment ground water constitute a special focus area for MGNREGA works and about 2/3rd of the expenditure is directly related to construction of such structures.

Some of the steps taken by the Government to boost the availability of ground water through various artificial recharge of ground water and rainwater harvesting measures are mentioned below:

â€¢ CGWB has implemented demonstrative rain water harvesting and artificial recharge projects in the country including

Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh for facilitating the State Governments to replicate the same in similar hydrogeological environment.
â€¢ The National Water Policy (2012) formulated by this Ministry, inter-alia, advocates conservation, promotion and protection of water and highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through rain water harvesting, direct use of rainfall and other management measures. The National Water Policy (2012) has been forwarded to all State Governments/ UTs including Andhra Pradesh and concerned Ministries/ Departments of the Central Government for adoption of the policy.
â€¢ CGWB has also prepared a conceptual document entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water in India" in 2013, involving ground water scientists/experts. This Master Plan has been circulated to all State Governments including Andhra Pradesh for implementation.

â€¢ Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has issued directives to the Chief Secretaries of all States and the Administrators of all UTs to take measures to promote/adopt artificial recharge of ground water / rain water harvesting. 30 States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh have made rain water harvesting mandatory by enacting laws, formulating rules & regulations, including provisions in building bye-laws or through suitable Government Orders.
â€¢ CGWB has taken up Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme in the country including Rayalseema region, Andhra Pradesh during XII Plan, under the scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation. The Aquifer Mapping is aimed to delineate aquifer disposition and their characterization for preparation of aquifer/area specific ground water management plans which includes rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge measures.
â€¢ CGWB has been organizing mass awareness and training programmes in the country including Rayalaseema region, Andhra Pradesh to promote rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.

(c) Water is a state subject. Accordingly, the respective State Governments carry out water conservation awareness programmes. In addition, this Ministry has launched Jal Kranti Abhiyan (2015-16 to 2017-18) in order to consolidate water conservation and management in the country through a holistic and integrated approach involving all stakeholders, making it a mass movement. Mass awareness programme is one of the components of Jal Kranti Abhiyan.

(d) & (e) The National Water Policy, 2012 formulated by this Ministry has inter-alia recommended that pricing of water should ensure its efficient use and reward conservation. Equitable access to water for all and its fair pricing, for drinking and other uses such as sanitation, agricultural and industrial, should be arrived at through independent statutory Water Regulatory Authority, set up by each State, after wide ranging consultation with all stakeholders.

A Committee constituted by this Ministry on 28.12.2015 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mihir Shah has suggested a draft National Water Framework Bill, 2016 which has emphasized for the application of the precautionary principle and the polluter pays principle by the appropriate Government.

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Annexure-I

(Annexure referred to in reply to Part (a) of the Unstarred Question No.2343 to be answered on 16.03.2017 in the Lok Sabha regarding "Availability of Ground Water")

District Wise Details Dynamic Ground Water Resources Assessment (as on 31st March 2013) of Rayalaseema Region
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Sl. No. District Net Ground Water Availability
In Hectare Metre (Ham) Annual Ground Water Draft for all uses
(in Ham) Stage of Ground Water Development

(%)
1 Chittoor 164882 117696 71
2 Kadapa 99258 69767 70
3 Anantapur 149537 140372 94
4 Kurnool 137065 64962 47
Total (Ham) 550742 392797 71
Total (BCM) 5.51 3.93 71